

House Study Bill 217 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE _____

BY (PROPOSED COMMITTEE ON
NATURAL RESOURCES BILL BY
CHAIRPERSON BACON)

A BILL FOR

1 An Act prohibiting the use of unmanned vehicles to disturb,
2 pursue, fish, or hunt wild animals.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. NEW SECTION. 481A.125B Unmanned vehicle —
2 prohibition — civil penalties.

3 1. As used in this section:

4 a. "Radio control vehicle" means a vehicle, vessel, or
5 other device that is operated remotely by a person using a
6 transmitter to send radio waves to a receiver on the vehicle,
7 vessel, or other device.

8 b. "Unmanned aerial vehicle" means the same as defined in
9 section 719.9.

10 c. "Unmanned vehicle" includes an unmanned aerial vehicle
11 and a radio control vehicle.

12 2. A person shall not disturb, pursue, fish, or hunt or
13 assist in the disturbing, pursuing, fishing, or hunting of a
14 wild animal by using an unmanned vehicle.

15 3. This section does not prohibit a person from using an
16 unmanned aerial vehicle to track a downed deer over land open
17 to the public for hunting, property on which the person has
18 received permission from the owner or tenant to operate an
19 unmanned aerial vehicle, or property owned or leased by the
20 person.

21 4. A person who violates this section is subject to a civil
22 penalty that shall be established, assessed, and collected by
23 the department by rule. Moneys collected from imposition of a
24 civil penalty pursuant to this subsection shall be deposited
25 in the state fish and game protection fund created in section
26 456A.17. A civil penalty for a violation of this section shall
27 not exceed ten thousand dollars for each violation.

28 EXPLANATION

29 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with
30 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

31 This bill prohibits a person from using an unmanned vehicle,
32 as defined in the bill, to disturb, pursue, fish, or hunt or
33 assist in the disturbing, pursuing, fishing, or hunting of a
34 wild animal. The bill does not prohibit a person from using
35 an unmanned aerial vehicle to track a downed deer over land

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1 open to the public for hunting, property on which the person
2 has received permission from the owner or tenant to operate an
3 unmanned aerial vehicle, or property owned or leased by the
4 person. A person who violates the bill is subject to a civil
5 penalty established by the department of natural resources by
6 rule that shall not exceed \$10,000 for each violation.